

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action of June 30, 2005 is respectfully requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected dependent claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, and also rejected pending claims 2-5 and 12-18 in view of the prior art. However, in item 10 on page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 6-8 and 10-11 are allowed. In view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, rejected claims 2-5 and 12-18 have now been cancelled so as to place this application in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Takaaki HIGASHIDA et al.

By: 

W. Douglas Hahm
Registration No. 44,142
Attorney for Applicants

WDH/ck
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
October 31, 2005